

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended)      A method of producing flat glass in which glass batch is melted in a furnace using burners fired by fuel and oxygen resulting in the formation of foam on the surface of the molten glass, and a burner, provided in a side-wall of the furnace, downstream of such burners producing foam produces a flame which is diffuse, luminescent and impinges on the surface of the glass dispersing said foam, said flame being cooler than the surface of the glass it contacts.

3. (original)      A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the glass is melted using oxy-fuel burners supplying oxygen and fuel which mix on entry to the furnace to burn with concentrated well defined flames.

4. (original)      A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the glass is melted using at least four pairs of opposed, optionally staggered oxy-fuel burners, and the resulting foam is dispersed using one or more diffuse luminescent flames in accordance with claim 1.

5. (original)      A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein a pair of opposed, optionally staggered, burners are used to provide two opposed, optionally staggered, diffuse luminescent flames which impinge on the surface of the glass to disperse the foam.

6.(currently amended) An improved method of producing flat glass wherein the glass is melted in a furnace and subsequently formed into a continuous ribbon wherein the improvement comprises melting the glass using burners fueled by fuel and oxygen resulting in formation of foam on the surface of the molten glass and dispersing the foam by directing a diffuse,

1-15313

luminescent flame originating from a burner provided in a side-wall of the furnace onto the surface of the glass carrying the foam, said flame being cooler than the surface of the glass it contacts.